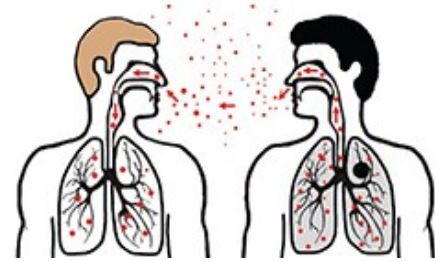


TB Screening - Who Needs It?

Why are we concerned about TB (tuberculosis) screening?

TB is caused by a type of bacteria. It is spread from person to person through the air. TB germs usually attack the lungs but can spread to other parts of the body in serious cases. If not treated properly, TB can be fatal. An average of eight people are diagnosed with TB disease every year in our health district.



Who needs a TB screening?

You should be screened for TB if you:

- Are a close contact of someone who has TB
- Have symptoms of TB (for example, prolonged cough, fever and night sweats)
- Use illegal drugs
- Have HIV
- Have medical problems that weaken your immune system
- Are from a country where TB is common (Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, Latin America)
- Live or work in settings where TB is more common (homeless shelters, jail, nursing homes, healthcare facilities, areas with little access to primary care doctors and medical care)

Does everyone infected with TB bacteria become sick?

No! Sometimes the TB bacteria can live in your body without making you sick. This is called **latent TB infection**. However, if these bacteria become active, you can get sick with **TB disease**.

Can TB be treated?

Yes, both latent TB infection and TB disease can be treated by taking medicine.

For more information: www.cdc.gov/TB



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